



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Commissioner for Patents  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450  
[www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov)

Paper No.

MERCK AND CO., INC  
P O BOX 2000  
RAHWAY NJ 07065-0907

**MAILED**

JUN 22 2009

**OFFICE OF PETITIONS**

In re Application of :  
Parmee et al. :  
Application No. 10/556,230 : ON APPLICATION FOR  
Filed: November 9, 2005 : PATENT TERM ADJUSTMENT  
Atty Docket No. 21241P :

This is in response to the PETITION PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. § 1.181 AND APPLICATION FOR RECONSIDERATION OF PATENT TERM ADJUSTMENT PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. §1.705 filed March 30, 2009. Applicants submit that the correct patent term adjustment is 605 days plus the full period of three years calculated from the date that is three years from the filing date, i.e., November 9, 2008, to the patent is granted<sup>1</sup>. Referring to Wyeth v. Dudas, 580 F. Supp. 2d 138, 88 U.S.P.Q. 2d 1538 (D.D.C. 2008), applicants request this correction on the basis that the Office will take in excess of three years to issue this patent.

As the instant application for patent term adjustment requests reconsideration of the patent term adjustment as it relates to the Office's failure to issue the patent within 3 years of the filing date, a decision is being **held in abeyance** until after the actual patent date. Knowledge of the actual date the patent issues is required to calculate the amount, if any, of additional patent term patentee is entitled to for Office failure to issue the patent within 3 years. See § 1.703(b). (This is true even where a request for continued examination (RCE) was filed. The computer will not undertake the § 1.703(b) calculation until the actual date of issuance of the patent has been determined).

<sup>1</sup> Applicants base this calculation of the period of adjustment for Office delay in taking in excess of three years to issue the patent from the date of commencement of the national stage under 371.

Applicant is given TWO (2) MONTHS from the issue date of the patent to file a written request for reconsideration of the patent term adjustment for Office failure to issue the patent within 3 years. A copy of this decision should accompany the request. Applicant may seek such consideration without payment of an additional fee. However, as to all other bases for seeking reconsideration of the patent term adjustment indicated in the patent, all requirements of § 1.705(d) must be met. Requests for reconsideration on other bases must be timely filed and must include payment of the required fee.

Rather than file the request for reconsideration of Patent Term Adjustment at the time of the mailing of the notice of allowance, applicant is advised that they may wait until the time of the issuance of the patent and file a request for reconsideration of the patent term pursuant to 37 CFR 1.705(d). The USPTO notes that it does not calculate the amount of time earned pursuant to 37 CFR 1.702(b) until the time of the issuance of the patent and accordingly, the Office will consider any request for reconsideration of the patent term adjustment due to an error in the calculation of 37 CFR 1.702(b) to be timely if the request for reconsideration is filed within two months of the issuance of the patent.

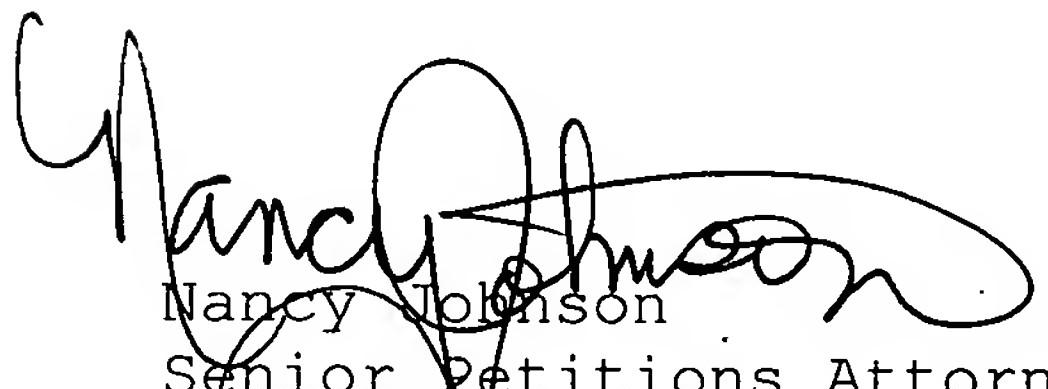
The determination of the patent term adjustment at the time of the mailing of the notice of allowance remains six hundred five (605) days.

The Office acknowledges submission of the \$200.00 fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.18(e). No additional fees are required.

Applicants are reminded that any delays by the Office pursuant to 37 CFR 1.702(a)(4) and 1.702(b) and any applicant delays under 37 CFR 1.704(c)(10) will be calculated at the time of the issuance of the patent and applicants will be notified of the revised patent term adjustment to be indicated on the patent in the Issue Notification letter that is mailed to applicants approximately three weeks prior to issuance.

The Office of Data Management has been advised of this decision. This matter is being referred to the Office of Data Management for issuance of the patent.

Telephone inquiries specific to this decision should be directed to the undersigned at (571) 272-3219.

  
Nancy Johnson  
Senior Petitions Attorney  
Office of Petitions